

**General Assembly**Distr.: General
20 June 2006

Original: English

Sixtieth session

Agenda item 138

Financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire**Performance report for the period from 1 July 2004 to
30 June 2005 and proposed budget for the period from
1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 for the United Nations
Operation in Côte d'Ivoire****Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and
Budgetary Questions**

Appropriation 2004/05	\$378,472,800
Expenditure 2004/05	\$336,890,500
Appropriation 2005/06	\$418,777,000
Proposal submitted by the Secretary-General 2006/07	\$420,175,200
Recommendation of the Advisory Committee 2006/07	\$420,175,200

I. Introduction

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions recommends approval of the full amount proposed by the Secretary-General for the budget for the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 (see A/60/753 and Corr.1).
2. The general report of the Advisory Committee on the administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations will contain its views and recommendations on a number of cross-cutting issues. Consequently, in the paragraphs below, the Committee deals with resources and other items that relate specifically to UNOCI.
3. The documents used by the Advisory Committee in its consideration of the financing of UNOCI are listed at the end of the present report.



II. Financial performance for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005

4. On the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, the General Assembly, in its resolution 59/16 A of 29 October 2004, appropriated 378,472,800 United States dollars (\$) gross (\$372,129,600 net) for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 for the maintenance of the Operation, inclusive of the amount of \$200,646,600 gross (\$197,058,600 net) previously appropriated by the Assembly in its resolution 58/310 of 18 June 2004 for the maintenance of UNOCI during the period from 1 July to 31 December 2004. The full amount has been assessed on Member States. Expenditure for the maintenance of the Operation for the period totalled \$336,890,500 gross (\$331,984,200 net).

5. The resulting unencumbered balance of \$41,582,300 gross (\$40,145,400 net) represents 11 per cent of the total appropriation for the maintenance of the mission. Key resource variances include savings under the following:

(a) Military personnel (\$8,485,600 or 5.3 per cent), attributable to reduced transportation costs for contingent-owned equipment, the non-deployment of the aviation unit of eight military aircraft, the delayed deployment of military observers and the delayed deployment of civilian police owing to the scarcity of available French-speaking police officers (see table), offset in part by higher requirements for military contingents due to early deployment and additional costs for mission subsistence allowance;

(b) Civilian personnel (\$4,926,800 or 9.7 per cent), primarily due to delayed recruitment resulting in higher actual vacancy rates than those budgeted under all categories of personnel (see table) and actual grade levels of national staff lower than those in the budgeted provisions, offset in part by additional costs for the relocation of personnel during the November 2004 crisis and the introduction of hazardous duty station allowance mission-wide between December 2004 and May 2005;

(c) Operational costs (\$28,169,900 or 16.9 per cent), mainly attributable to reduced requirements under the following: air transportation owing to the utilization of lower than budgeted flight hours following the non-deployment of the aviation helicopter unit; facilities and infrastructure and equipment as a result of the delayed establishment of the Operation's headquarters following the November 2004 crisis; ground transportation, as a result of the non-procurement of heavy trucks; commercial communications, as a result of the delayed deployment of civilian personnel; and various other supplies, services and equipment.

Budgeted versus actual vacancy rates by category of personnel

<i>Category</i>	<i>Authorized 2004/05</i>	<i>Budgeted vacancy rate (Percentage)</i>	<i>Actual vacancy rate (Percentage)</i>
Military observers	200	10	12.4
Military contingents	6 040	5	2.7
United Nations police	350	10	33.1
International staff	387	20	24
National staff	405	15	19.8
United Nations Volunteers	215	20	43
Government-provided personnel	8	0	87.5

6. The comments of the Advisory Committee on the information in the performance report on individual objects of expenditure can be found, where relevant, in the explanation of the proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 in the paragraphs below.

III. Information on performance for the current period

7. The Advisory Committee was provided supplementary information concerning the current period. As at 28 February 2006, a total of \$896,636,900 had been assessed on Member States in respect of UNOCI since its inception. Payments received as at the same date amounted to \$619,672,800, leaving an outstanding balance of \$276,964,100. As at 30 May 2006, the cash position of the mission was \$176,300,000, and unliquidated obligations for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 amounted to \$14,377,600 as at 25 May 2006.

8. In respect of troop-cost reimbursement, payments of \$81,155,300 in 2005 and a further \$32,156,524 in 2006 have been made to Member States for the period up to 31 January 2006, and outstanding obligations amount to \$40,251,676. Payments made to Member States in 2005 for contingent-owned equipment, certified up to 30 September 2005, amount to \$57,622,000, while obligations total \$44,690,300.

9. With regard to death and disability compensation, the Committee notes that since inception, as at 30 April 2006, nine claims have been made; a total amount of \$251,200 has been paid; unliquidated obligations amount to \$3,427,400; and four claims are pending.

10. The incumbency levels for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 were as follows as at 31 May 2006:

<i>Posts</i>	<i>Authorized^a</i>	<i>Encumbered</i>	<i>Vacancy rate (Percentage)</i>
Military observers	200	189	5.5
Military contingents	6 890	6 703	2.7
United Nations police	350	337	3.7
Formed police units	375	374	0.3
International staff	459 ^b	350	23.7
National staff	524 ^c	476	9.2
United Nations Volunteers	245	198	19.2
Government-provided personnel	8	8	0
Total	9 051	8 635	4.6

^a Represents the highest authorized strength for the period.

^b Includes 5 general temporary assistance positions for the Conduct and Discipline Team (1 P-5, 2 P-4, 1 P-2, 1 Field Service).

^c Includes 5 general temporary assistance positions for the Conduct and Discipline Team (1 National Officer and 1 National General Service staff).

11. Supplementary data provided to the Advisory Committee for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 (see annex I) showed that as at 30 April 2006, expenditure for the period amounted to \$322,465,658 against an apportionment of \$418,777,000. The projected expenditure till the end of June 2006 amounts to \$72,778,657, bringing the total expenditure for the financial period to \$395,244,315 with an unencumbered balance of \$23,532,685, or 5.6 per cent of the appropriation.

IV. Proposed budget for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007

A. Mandate and planned results

12. The United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire was established by the Security Council in its resolution 1528 (2004) for an initial period of 12 months from 4 April 2004, at which date authority was transferred from the United Nations Mission in Côte d'Ivoire and the forces of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to UNOCI. The mandate of UNOCI was subsequently extended by the Security Council by its resolutions 1594 (2005) until 4 May 2005; resolution 1600 (2005) until 4 June 2005; resolution 1603 (2005) until 24 June 2005; resolution 1609 (2005) until 24 January 2006; and resolution 1652 (2006) until 15 December 2006.

13. In its resolution 1528 (2004), the Security Council initially authorized up to 6,240 military personnel, including 200 military observers and up to 350 civilian police officers. The Council authorized, in its resolution 1609 (2005), an increase of 850 military personnel and an increase of up to a ceiling of 725 civilian police personnel. In its resolution 1682 (2006) of 2 June 2006, which was adopted after the budget for UNOCI for the period 2006/07 was prepared, the Council authorized a further increase in strength of 1,500 personnel, including 1,025 military personnel and 475 civilian police personnel until 15 December 2006 (see para. 22 below).

14. The Committee was informed that national elections could not take place in October 2005 as envisaged owing to delays and blockages in the implementation of the Linas-Marcoussis Agreement and the Pretoria Agreement on the Peace Process in Côte d'Ivoire. The period was also marked by violent attacks in January 2006 against UNOCI headquarters and other offices in the western part of the country, and against other civilians, embassies and non-governmental organizations. As a result of the January 2006 disturbances, 382 staff members were relocated to the designated safe area in the region using air assets from UNOCI and MONUC, with an effective suspension of operations for 44 days.

15. The total cost of the relocation of staff is estimated at \$1,293,431. Additional costs include damage to property and vehicles. Lessons learned during the events of November 2004 led to a speedier evacuation of personnel in January 2006, and the experiences acquired during the crises are also being incorporated to improve security plans and in developing the Operation's capabilities in such areas as crowd control.

16. Despite the above-mentioned setbacks, several important steps have been taken to implement the road map for peace established by the International Working Group in December 2005, including disarmament-related activities, reinstatement of State administration, identification of the population and the establishment of an independent electoral commission. Furthermore, the integrated mission headquarters in Abidjan was completed and headquarters staff were transferred from other locations in December 2005.

17. With respect to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, the Committee was informed that the project and implementation timeline had been developed. The identification and pre-cantonment phases were launched by the forces on 26 May 2006. Some 27,000 Defence and Security Forces (FDS) and 262 Forces armées des forces nouvelles (FAFN) have been pre-cantonned and 5,288 applicants have been identified as of 7 June 2006. The overall cost estimates of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process amount to some \$150 million. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that the World Bank had pledged up to \$100 million, that a further \$20 million had been mobilized through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and that the Government of Côte d'Ivoire had earmarked \$20 million for this purpose. Further resource mobilization will be required to fill the funding gap of \$10 million.

18. Concerning the electoral process, the Committee was informed that following its meeting of 17 March 2006, the International Working Group had issued a communiqué urging the Independent Electoral Commission to hold elections no later than 31 October 2006. The structure and rules of procedure of the Independent Electoral Commission were established in May 2006, and the opening of the 21 regional commissions, staffed with 7,000 government electoral officers, has commenced. The High Representative for Elections is present in the mission and is actively involved in the electoral process. The contribution of the Operation's Electoral Division to the electoral process includes training of the 7,000 National Electoral Officers, providing support to the Office of the High Representative for Elections and the Independent Electoral Commission and observing the voter identification process.

19. Upon enquiry, the Committee was informed of the cooperation between the mission and the Office of the High Representative for Elections in Côte

d'Ivoire. The Committee trusts that the mission will continue to assist the Office, especially with regard to logistics, while respecting the functional independence of his office.

20. The Committee commends UNOCI on the improvements in the presentation of the results-based framework, both in the performance report for 2004/05 and the proposed budget for the period 2006/07. The Committee notes the efforts by UNOCI to respond to the request of the General Assembly in its resolution 59/296 with respect to results-based budgeting, as set out in section II of the table at the end of the 2006/07 budget document (see A/60/753 and Corr.1, sect. V.A).

21. In its previous report on the administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations (see A/59/736, para. 39) the Committee had stressed the importance of the involvement of and guidance from the most senior levels of the missions in the formulation of objectives, as well as in the budget preparation process. The Committee was informed that in response to this recommendation, UNOCI had established a budget steering committee, chaired by the principal Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General. A network of focal points representing all the areas of the Operation, headed by the Chief of Staff, have also been designated to collect valid data for the constitution of the portfolio of evidence to substantiate actual indicators of achievement and actual outputs reported in the performance reports. **The Committee welcomes this approach, which is an important step towards the development of a results-oriented management culture focused on achieving desired programme goals as per the mandate of the Operation, with the integration of results-based budgeting techniques into the strategic planning and performance measurement processes.** The Committee trusts that the experiences of UNOCI and the lessons learned will be shared with other peacekeeping operations.

B. Resource requirements

22. The proposed budget for UNOCI for 2006/07 (A/60/753 and Corr.1) amounts to \$420,175,200 gross, \$412,294,800 net, representing an increase of \$1,398,200 (0.3 per cent) over the amount of \$418,777,000 apportioned for the 2005/06 period. The budget provides for the deployment of 6,890 military contingent personnel, 725 United Nations police officers, 467 international staff, 575 national staff and 277 United Nations Volunteers. As noted in paragraph 13 above, by its resolution 1682 (2006), the Security Council authorized an increase of up to 1,500 additional personnel, including a maximum of 1,025 military personnel and 475 civilian police personnel. The Committee was informed by the Controller in a letter dated 9 June 2006 that, in view of the substantial increase in the strength of UNOCI and in order to provide the Operation with the necessary resources, a revised proposal for the 2006/07 budget would be submitted to the General Assembly during the main part of its sixty-first session. The Committee was also informed that, pending the determination of the new requirements and their approval by the Assembly, the immediate costs related to the deployment and sustainment of additional personnel would be accommodated from within the proposed 2006/07 budget, upon its approval by the General Assembly.

23. The Advisory Committee notes that the operations of UNOCI have consistently resulted in net surpluses and is of the opinion that the Operation should try to adjust budgetary assumptions to anticipated activity when establishing the revised budget proposals for the period 2006/07. The Committee recommends that any under-expenditure realized at the end of the current period (see para. 11 above) be applied towards meeting the additional requirements of UNOCI related to the deployment of the additional personnel authorized by the Security Council in resolution 1682 (2006).

1. Military and police personnel

<i>Posts</i>	<i>Authorized 2005/06</i>	<i>Proposed 2006/07</i>
Military observers	200	200
Military contingents	6 890	6 890
Civilian police	725	725

24. The estimated resource requirements for military and police personnel amount to \$193,138,500, reflecting a decrease of \$2,474,600, or 1.3 per cent, over the apportionment for the period 2005/06. The variance is due to reduced requirements for the transportation of contingent-owned equipment owing to the full deployment of the military contingent by 1 July 2006 and favourable prices for rations. The Committee was informed that a troop-contributing country had been identified for the aviation unit of six helicopters and that it was expected that the unit would be deployed in the near future.

25. The Committee requested updated cost estimates for contingent-owned equipment, major equipment and self-sustainment, calculated on the basis of 24 signed memorandums of understanding and one draft agreement as at June 2006. The revised estimates for the 2005/06 period amount to \$58,482,755, representing a reduction of \$1,196,345, or 2 per cent, compared to the budgeted requirements of \$59,679,100.

26. With respect to rations, the Committee notes that, in its report on the accounts of peacekeeping operations for the period ending 30 June 2005, the Board of Auditors observed that, in a number of missions, including UNOCI, deficiencies in the packaging, storage or temperature control of rations were noted, that evaluations of supplier performance indicated instances of discrepancies in terms of quality, defects and substitutions, and that there was no penalty clause in case of poor contractor performance.¹ **The Advisory Committee reiterates the importance that it attaches to matters relating to rations, since this issue could impact on the health and morale of contingent personnel and has significant financial implications (see A/59/736, paras. 41-45). The Committee trusts that UNOCI will take all necessary measures to address the deficiencies observed by the Board of Auditors with respect to rations and report fully on this matter in the budget proposal for the 2007/08 period.**

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 5 (A/60/5)*, vol. II and corrigendum (A/60/5/Corr.1), para. 324.

2. Civilian personnel

Posts	Authorized 2005/06	Proposed 2006/07	Variance	Encumbered (31 May 2006)	Vacancy rate (Percentage)
International staff	459	467	8	350	23.7
National staff	524	575	51	476	9.2
United Nations Volunteers	245	277	32	198	19.2
Government-provided personnel	8	8		8	—
Total	1 236	1 327	91	1 032	16.2

27. In the budget submission, a net increase of 91 posts is proposed. The Committee notes that there is a persistent problem of high vacancy rates in all categories of civilian staff. It points out that these high vacancy rates make it difficult to project staffing requirements and to assess the need for new posts. The Committee was informed that the recruitment of qualified French-speaking personnel continues to be difficult and remains an issue of concern during the current period.

28. The Committee inquired into the progress made with regard to the recruitment of French-speaking personnel. It was informed that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations had adopted a four-pronged strategy to meet the needs for francophone candidates for civilian positions in peacekeeping operations, including UNOCI, namely: (a) establishment of a French version of the United Nations peacekeeping segment of the Galaxy website and posting of vacancies in both English and French; (b) development of a recruitment and outreach team that uses the working languages of the United Nations; (c) introduction of proactive outreach strategies, including partnerships with Member States, governmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as others, to identify francophone candidates, and of targeted advertising in regional and international publications; and (d) on-site recruitment campaigns for francophone countries. **The Advisory Committee, which has also commented on this in its reports regarding MINUSTAH and MONUC, encourages the efforts under way and will continue to follow up on this matter.**

Recommendation on posts

29. *Establishment of 1 United Nations Volunteer position of Legal Researcher in the Office of the Legal Adviser (executive direction and management).* The incumbent would provide the Special Representative of the Secretary-General with legal analysis and research on various aspect of the implementation of the road map. **The Advisory Committee recommends acceptance of these proposals.**

30. *Establishment of 1 P-3, 1 national officer post and 1 United Nations Volunteer position for three human rights officers, 1 national General Service post of Language Assistant/Driver and 1 national General Service post of Administrative Assistant (to be accommodated through a redeployment from the Child Protection Section) in the Human Rights Office (component 3, humanitarian and human rights).* As indicated in the proposed budget, these posts are requested to staff an additional regional office in the San Pedro region, in which a high number of incidences of human rights violations are reported, and which cannot be monitored

effectively from other UNOCI locations owing to long distances. **The Advisory Committee recommends acceptance of these proposals.**

31. *Establishment of 1 Field Service post of Administrative Assistant, 10 national officer posts of Child Protection Officer and 4 United Nations Volunteer positions of Child Protection Officer in the Child Protection Section (component 3, humanitarian and human rights).* It is indicated in the proposed budget that these posts are requested pursuant to Security Council resolution 1612 (2005), concerning the implementation of a monitoring and reporting mechanism on the recruitment and use of child soldiers. The Committee requested additional information on the respective roles of the United Nations and other agencies, which is provided in paragraphs 47 to 49 below. **The Advisory Committee recommends acceptance of these proposals.**

32. *Establishment of 1 United Nations Volunteer position of HIV/AIDS Counsellor in the HIV/AIDS Unit (component 3, humanitarian and human rights).* The Committee notes that the incumbent would be responsible for the new function of conducting HIV/AIDS education and sensitization programmes and providing information on HIV prevention measures, medical care and treatment to UNOCI staff deployed in the field, whereas the existing personnel of the Unit (one P-4, two national officers, one national General Service staff and one United Nations Volunteer) provide advice to the Government of Côte d'Ivoire. **The Advisory Committee recommends acceptance of these proposals.**

33. *Establishment of 16 United Nations Volunteer positions of Electoral Officer in the Electoral Assistance Office (component 4, peace process).* **The Advisory Committee recommends acceptance of this proposal on the understanding that the deployment of these officers will be linked to developments in the electoral process.**

34. *Establishment of 1 Field Service post of Broadcast Technician, 1 national General Service post of Photographer, 4 national General Service posts of Outreach Assistant, 1 national officer post of Video Producer, 1 national officer post of Regional Outreach Officer, 2 United Nations Volunteer positions of Radio Producer and 4 United Nations Volunteer positions of Outreach Assistant (component 4, peace process).* The Committee notes that it is proposed to strengthen the Communications and Public Information Office to promote understanding of the peace process and its role among local communities and parties through the Operation's public information capacity, including radio broadcasting, and that the additional staff would be deployed to field offices. **The Advisory Committee recommends acceptance of these proposals.**

35. *Establishment of 3 P-3 posts of Civil Affairs Officer in the Civil Affairs Section (component 4, peace process).* The Committee notes that the incumbents would be responsible for monitoring preparations for the redeployment of State administration and would be deployed to new field offices. **The Advisory Committee recommends acceptance of these proposals.**

36. *Establishment of 1 P-5 post of Deputy Police Commissioner in the Office of the Police Commissioner (component 5, law and order).* The Committee notes that the post is requested in view of the expansion of the civilian police strength. **The Advisory Committee recommends acceptance of this proposal.**

37. *Abolition of 1 General Service post (Other level) and establishment of 1 national General Service post of Administrative Assistant and 2 United Nations Volunteer positions of Judicial Officer in the Rule of Law, Judicial System and Prison Advisory Section (component 5, law and order).* It is proposed to establish these posts to report on developments in the judicial sector. The Committee notes that the functions of the Administrative Assistant (General Service (Other level)) will be performed by national staff. The Committee has consistently encouraged the gradual replacement of international staff with national staff wherever appropriate since it contributes to capacity-building in the local population. **The Advisory Committee recommends acceptance of these proposals.**

38. The following posts are requested under component 6, support services:

(a) *Establishment of 1 Field Service post of Budget Assistant and 1 post of Board of Inquiry Assistant (to be accommodated through redeployments from the Supply Section) in the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;*

(b) *Establishment of 1 national General Service post of Administrative Assistant in the Office of the Chief of Administrative Services;*

(c) *Establishment of 1 national General Service post and 1 United Nations Volunteer position of Finance Assistant (to be accommodated through redeployments from the Procurement Section), and 2 national General Service posts of Regional Finance Assistant in the Finance Section;*

(d) *Establishment of 1 national General Service post of Claims Assistant, 1 national General Service post of Property Survey Board Assistant, 2 Field Service posts of Regional Property Control Assistant and 1 Field Service post of Records Management Assistant (to be accommodated through a redeployment from the Supply Section) in the General Services Section;*

(e) *Establishment of 1 national General Service post of Regional Supply Assistant, 1 national General Service post of Quality Control Assistant and 1 national General Service post of Requisitioning Assistant in the Supply Section;*

(f) *Establishment of 4 national General Service posts of Generator Mechanic, 2 national General Service posts of Electrician, 1 United Nations Volunteer position of Water Quality Monitoring Officer and 2 national General Service posts of Water Quality Monitoring Assistant in the Engineering Section;*

(g) *Establishment of 15 national General Service posts of Driver in the Transport Section.*

The Advisory Committee recommends acceptance of these proposals.

3. Operational costs

<i>Apportionment 2005/06</i>	<i>Proposed 2006/07</i>
\$155 574 000	\$144 347 400

39. The estimated operational requirements for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 represent a decrease of \$11,226,600, or 7.2 per cent compared to the apportionment for the current period. The variance results primarily from:

(a) reduced requirements under air transportation (\$8,646,900) for rental of aircraft

and fuel costs owing to the replacement of a helicopter by a more cost-effective fixed-wing aircraft; (b) lower requirements under facilities and infrastructure (\$3,422,600) for the acquisition of equipment and rental of premises following the relocation of the Operation's personnel to the integrated mission headquarters; (c) decreased requirements for the acquisition of communications equipment (\$2,026,000); and (d) reduced requirements under other supplies, services and equipment (\$1,328,700), including efficiency gains resulting from the reduction in the average cost of bank transactions, which is estimated at \$44,100 on an annual basis. Upon request, the Committee, which intends to monitor developments in this regard, was provided with additional information on the new banking arrangements in the Operation (see annex II). The reduced requirements are offset in part by higher requirements under ground transportation (\$3,484,800) for the acquisition of 12 additional vehicles and replacement of 30 vehicles, for spare parts and by an 18.7 per cent increase in the price of fuel.

Ground transportation

40. The Committee notes that the Board of Auditors has indicated that delays in the implementation of the CarLog system at certain missions, including UNOCI, had resulted in deficiencies in the controls for the prevention of the abuse of United Nations vehicles.² The Committee was informed that the CarLog system had been implemented on all vehicles at UNOCI and that the enforcement of a strict driver control programme, taking into account violations recorded by the system, had been included as an output under expected accomplishment 6.1 in the results-based framework.

Travel

41. Non-training travel costs of the staff of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations at Headquarters to peacekeeping missions, previously charged to the missions, are transferred to the support account for peacekeeping operations in the Secretary-General's budget proposal for the period 2006/07. For UNOCI, these costs amount to \$272,412. In its related report, the Advisory Committee had indicated that it expected corresponding decreases to be clearly indicated under the mission budgets (A/60/807, para. 33).

42. The Committee notes, however, that the resources requested for official travel for the 2006/07 period would increase by \$370,500, or 29.7 per cent (i.e., from \$1,246,400 apportioned in the current period to \$1,616,900). This amount comprises \$840,700 for travel not related to training and \$776,200 for training-related travel, an increase of 32.3 and 27 per cent, respectively, compared to the 2005/06 period. The Committee was informed that the increased resources under non-training-related travel were required mainly for travel within the country in connection with consultations on the implementation of the mandate of the Operation. With respect to training-related travel, additional resources were required for the training of UNOCI personnel in a variety of areas, such as human rights, budget, finance, supply, air operations, engineering, transport, information technology, security, HIV/AIDS awareness, and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, as well as language skills. The Committee trusts that efforts will be made to utilize these resources as cost-effectively as possible.

² Ibid., para. 219.

Quick-impact projects

43. The proposed budget for UNOCI for the period 2006/07 contains a provision of \$1,000,000 for quick-impact projects. Additional information requested by the Committee provides a breakdown of this amount by component, indicating that \$150,000 is requested for 10 projects for disarmament, demobilization, reintegration, repatriation and resettlement activities, \$540,000 for 36 projects in the humanitarian and human rights area and \$310,000 for 21 projects related to the peace process. The Committee notes that, during the 2004/05 period, 93 per cent of the funds apportioned for quick-impact projects (\$800,000) were utilized. However, for the current period, actual expenditure as at 30 April 2006 amounted to only \$276,900, against an apportionment of \$1,000,000. The Committee was informed that UNOCI projected expenditure of the full amount by 30 June 2006 and that the implementation of the projects would be closely monitored by the Operation's quick-impact project steering committee. The Advisory Committee was informed that none of the quick-impact projects developed had been affected by the outbreak of violence.

44. The Advisory Committee recalls that the report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations (the Brahimi report) called for the funding of quick-impact projects in a mission's first-year budget (A/55/305-S/2000/809, para. 47 (a)). By its resolution 58/315 of 1 July 2004, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendation of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations that resources for quick-impact projects be made available through the second year of peacekeeping operations, provided that they remain in direct support of the mission's mandate and either respond to needs not covered by existing development and humanitarian assistance efforts, or serve as a catalyst to broaden those efforts.³ Numerous exceptions have been made to this stipulation; however, the General Assembly, in section VII of its resolution 59/296 of 22 June 2005, requested the Secretary-General to streamline the process of implementation of quick-impact projects and to ensure that they were fully implemented within the planned time frames. **The Advisory Committee is of the view that it is for the General Assembly to decide whether it wishes to change the policy regarding quick-impact projects or to grant an exception in this case.**

V. Other matters

A. Inter-mission cooperation

45. Following the deterioration of the security situation at the beginning of 2006, MONUC provided air assets for the relocation of UNOCI personnel to a designated safe haven in the region between 25 and 28 January. In February 2006, the Security Council, in its resolution 1657 (2006), authorized the Secretary-General to redeploy immediately a maximum of one infantry company from the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) to UNOCI to provide extra security coverage for United Nations personnel and property and to perform other tasks mandated to UNOCI. It was decided that personnel-related costs would be borne by UNMIL and that logistical and administrative support costs would be met from the existing resources of UNOCI.

³ Ibid., *Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/58/19), para. 91.

46. UNOCI continues to cooperate with the other missions in West Africa on a regular basis and to share information on military, security, political, humanitarian and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration developments.

B. Child protection

47. In its resolution 1612 (2005), the Security Council established a comprehensive monitoring and reporting system to collect and provide reliable information on the recruitment and use of child soldiers in violation of applicable international law and on other violations and abuses committed against children affected by armed conflict. The Council also established a working group to review the reports of that monitoring system, as well as progress in the development and implementation of the action plans called for in paragraph 5 (a) of its resolution 1539 (2004) to halt the recruitment and use of children in violation of international obligations by all parties concerned.

48. Upon request, the Advisory Committee was provided additional information on the division of responsibilities between UNICEF and the Child Protection Unit, in the context of the implementation of Security Council resolution 1612 (2005), on children in armed conflict.

49. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict is responsible for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) and reports to the working group of the Security Council on progress in this regard. According to the information provided to the Advisory Committee, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) works closely with local authorities in the areas of education, health and sanitation to improve the living conditions of children, including in zones controlled by the Forces nouvelles. Following the recent commitment of the Forces nouvelles to release the child soldiers in the areas under their control, the Child Protection Unit of UNOCI will be tasked with the follow-up, at the political level, of the release of child soldiers of the Forces nouvelles.

50. The Advisory Committee was informed that Côte d'Ivoire had been designated as a priority in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1612 (2005), by the working group created by that resolution and that UNOCI would have to submit a report to the working group for consideration in November 2006. Furthermore, according to the information provided to the Advisory Committee, resources requested by UNOCI for reporting to the working group are consistent with the practice at other missions.

VI. Conclusions

51. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of UNOCI for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 are indicated in paragraph 26 of the performance report (A/60/630). The Advisory Committee recommends that the unencumbered balance of \$41,582,300, as well as other income from the period in the amount of \$15,803,000, be credited to Member States.

52. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly in connection with the financing of UNOCI for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 are indicated in paragraph 38 of the proposed budget (A/60/753 and Corr.1). The

Advisory Committee recommends acceptance of the Secretary-General's current proposals. The Committee expects that the Secretary-General will submit, during the main part of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly, a revised budget proposal in line with Security Council resolution 1682 (2006) of 2 June 2006.

Documentation

- Performance report on the budget of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005: report of the Secretary-General (A/60/630)
- Budget for the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007: report of the Secretary-General (A/60/753 and Corr.1)
- Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the revised budget for the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 (A/60/420)
- Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed budget for the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 and expenditure report for the period from 4 April to 30 June 2004 (A/59/736/Add.15)
- Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed budget for the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire for the period from 4 April 2004 to 30 June 2005 (A/58/806)
- General Assembly resolutions 59/16 A and B on the financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire
- Security Council resolutions 1652 (2006), 1657 (2006) and 1682 (2006)
- Eighth progress report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (S/2006/222)
- Seventh progress report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (S/2006/2)

Annex I

United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire: current and projected expenditures for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006

(United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	Apportionment	Expenditure at 30 April 2006	Projected expenditure to 30 June 2006 ^a	Estimated unencumbered balance as at 30 June 2006	Variance (percentage)	Reasons for savings
I. Military and police personnel						
Military observers	9 783 300	8 251 666	1 594 641	(63 007)		
Military contingents	160 183 600	141 445 177	12 546 586	6 191 837		
Civilian police	14 544 800	12 000 241	2 979 739	(435 180)		
Formed police units	11 101 400	6 897 018	4 350 501	(146 119)		
Total, I	195 613 100	168 594 102	21 471 467	5 547 531		3 Savings in respect of military contingents are attributable to the fact that there were fewer rotations. Overexpenditure with respect to military observers and United Nations police is due to evacuation expenses incurred in January 2006 while formed police units were deployed at a faster rate than projected.
II. Civilian personnel						
International staff	50 419 700	40 249 444	9 234 302	935 954		
National staff	9 844 700	6 715 983	1 697 112	1 431 605		
United Nations Volunteers	7 325 500	6 457 203	2 405 480	(1 537 183)		
Total, II	67 589 900	53 422 630	13 336 894	830 376		1.2 Overexpenditure with respect to United Nations Volunteers resulted from an increase in the volunteer living allowance and the payment of lump-sum travel allowance to volunteers after two years of service, as well as payment of evacuation allowances to volunteers during the January 2006 crisis. The January 2006 crisis led to delayed recruitment of international and national staff, resulting in savings.

Object of expenditure	Apportionment	Expenditure at 30 April 2006	Projected expenditure to 30 June 2006 ^a	Estimated unencumbered balance as at 30 June 2006	Variance (percentage)	Reasons for savings
III. Operational costs						
General temporary assistance	192 100	108 594	21 719	61 787		
Government-provided personnel	412 500	—	270 420	142 080		
Civilian electoral observers	—	—	—	—		
Consultants	179 700	158 503	25 480	(4 283)		
Official travel	1 246 400	1 543 184	308 637	(605 421)		
Facilities and infrastructure	53 774 800	34 367 927	19 107 427	299 446		
Ground transportation	12 709 700	10 204 779	955 477	1 549 444		
Air transportation	46 035 300	29 215 988	4 103 195	12 716 117		
Naval transportation	24 100	—	20 000	4 100		
Communications	18 148 200	11 584 346	5 472 296	1 091 558		
Information technology	5 309 300	2 923 918	1 889 194	496 188		
Medical	5 461 200	4 097 306	2 320 532	(956 638)		
Special equipment	2 543 600	2 162 300	381 300	—		
Miscellaneous supplies, services and equipment	8 537 100	3 805 163	2 371 536	2 360 401		
Quick-impact projects	1 000 000	276 918	723 082	—		
Total, III	155 574 000	100 448 926	37 970 296	17 154 778	11	Savings under ground transportation are due to reduced requirements with respect to petrol, oil and lubricants during the January 2006 crisis. Savings under air transportation are due to the non-deployment of military helicopters. Savings under communications and information technology are due to the delayed deployment of contractual personnel and lower actual costs of communication services and information technology software. Overexpenditure under medical pertains to requirements with respect to avian influenza and the upgrade of a level-1 hospital to a level-1-plus hospital. Savings under miscellaneous supplies, services and equipment are due to delays in the recruitment of language assistants, skilled/unskilled workers and cargo handlers.

Object of expenditure	Appropriation	Expenditure at 30 April 2006	Projected expenditure to 30 June 2006 ^a	Estimated unencumbered balance as at 30 June 2006	Variance (percentage)	Reasons for savings
Gross	418 777 000	322 465 658	72 778 657	23 532 685	6	
Staff assessment income						
Net	418 777 000	322 465 658	72 778 657	23 532 685		
Voluntary contributions in kind (budgeted)						
Total	418 777 000	322 465 658	72 778 657	23 532 685	6	

^a Pre-encumbrance is included in total expenditures.

Annex II

United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire responses to queries of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Provide a summary of the impact of the new banking arrangements in the Operation.

The following are some of the key benefits derived by UNOCI as a result of the recent establishment of banking operations with Citibank:

(a) Savings from the bank fee on cash requirement for monthly mission subsistence allowance payments (bank fee of 0.5 per cent, approximately \$15,000 per month less than under the previous banking arrangement);

(b) Free-of-charge on-site teller service at the integrated mission headquarters in Abidjan (no such service was provided previously);

(c) Free international bank account opening facility for all UNOCI staff members;

(d) Better exchange fee for local currency transactions (based on the European Central Bank);

(e) Implementation of CitiDirect electronic fund transfer system, which allows UNOCI to undertake swift and safe fund transfers to local vendors.